



PRESS NOTICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Bank Employee Pleads Guilty to Embezzlement

Columbia, South Carolina ---- United States Attorney Bill Nettles stated today that Torlando Ramont Childress, age 40, of Hopkins, pled guilty today in federal court in Columbia to Embezzlement by a Bank Employee, a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 656. United States District Judge Cameron McGowan Currie will sentence Childress on October 18, 2011.

Evidence presented at the change of plea hearing established that Torlando Childress was the CFO of South Carolina Community Bank, an FDIC insured bank in Columbia. Childress had access to all personal and business accounts and could make money transfers into and out of these accounts. Childress used two accounts to embezzle approximately \$377,000 between September 2006 and March 2010.

Mr. Nettles stated the maximum penalty Childress can receive is a fine of \$1,000,000 and/or imprisonment for thirty years, plus a special assessment of \$100.

The case was investigated by agents of the United States Secret Service. Assistant United States Attorney Winston D. Holliday, Jr., of the Columbia office handled the case.

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